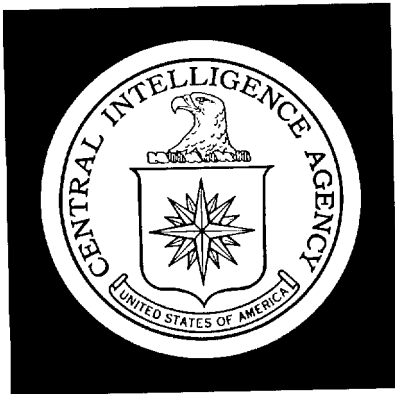


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USSR-BERLIN: The meeting of the four-power ambassadors' advisers on 7 October produced no forward movement on substantive issues, although the atmosphere was businesslike.

On some matters the Soviet representatives showed even less substantive flexibility than had Ambassador Abrasimov in the last ambassadorial meeting on 30 September. On the question of Bonn's role in Berlin, they reverted to a detailed list of demands rather than the shorter, more general list presented by Abrasimov. On the questions of access and movement within the city, they argued that the four powers were competent only to enunciate general principles and that detailed arrangements must be negotiated between the East Germans, West Germans, and West Berliners. As a result of differences on these issues, the "non-paper" developed by the representatives as a basis for the ambassadorial meeting today reflects agreement on only the broadest and least controversial principles.

The Soviets also returned to their suggestion of a two-phase settlement, proposing that the four powers try first to reach agreement only on the broad themes of a settlement, leaving aside the question of implementation. In pursuing this line, the Soviets are probing to see if an agreement of this sort would meet the requirement for "significant progress" in the Berlin talks which the West Germans have set as a precondition for ratification of the Soviet - West German treaty.

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